BABYLON 5™

4
APR

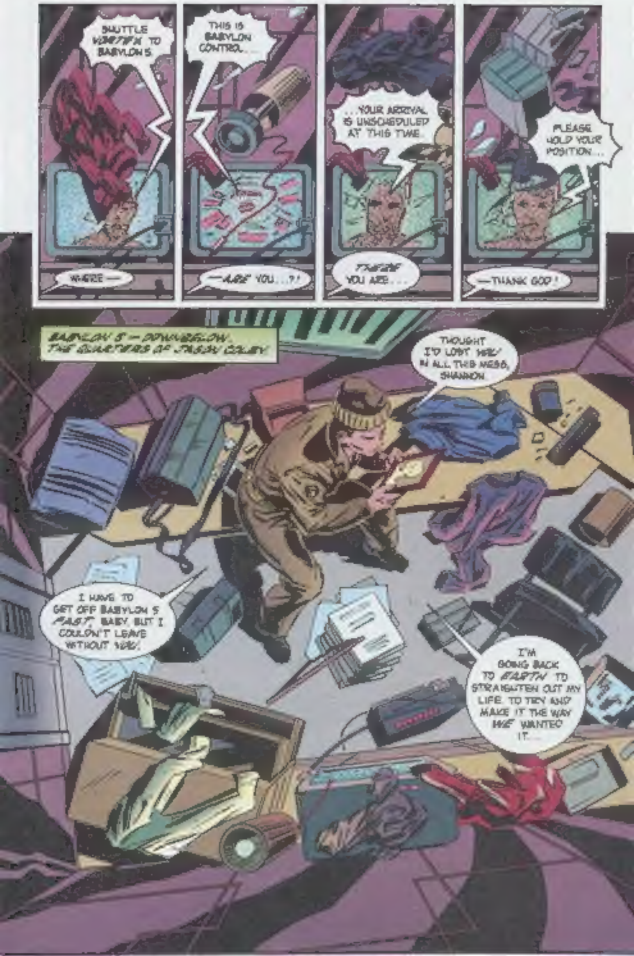
$1.95 US
$2.75 CAN
£1.25 UK

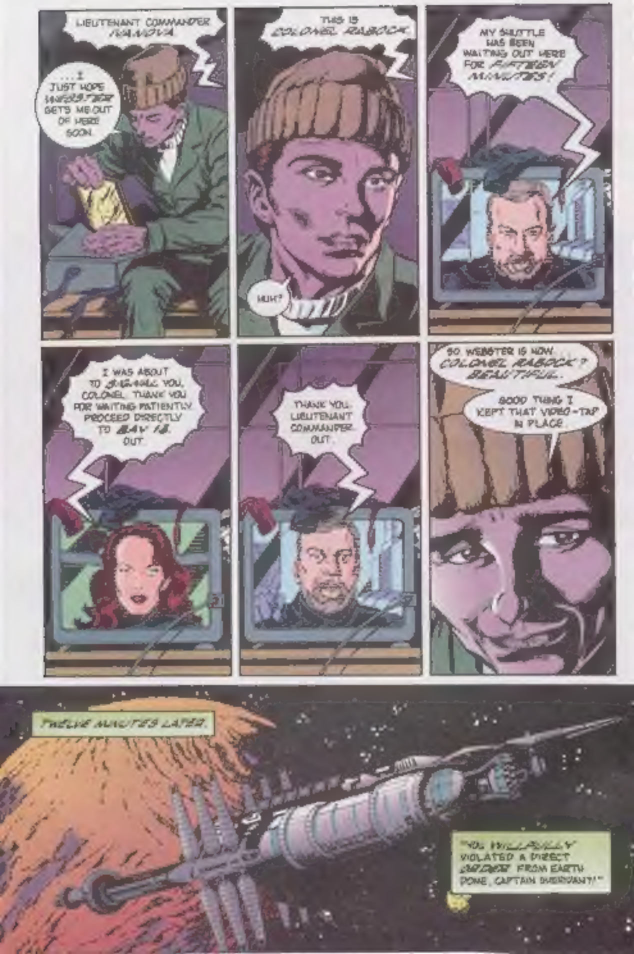
BASED ON THE
GROUND-BREAKING
WARNER BROS.
TELEVISION SERIES

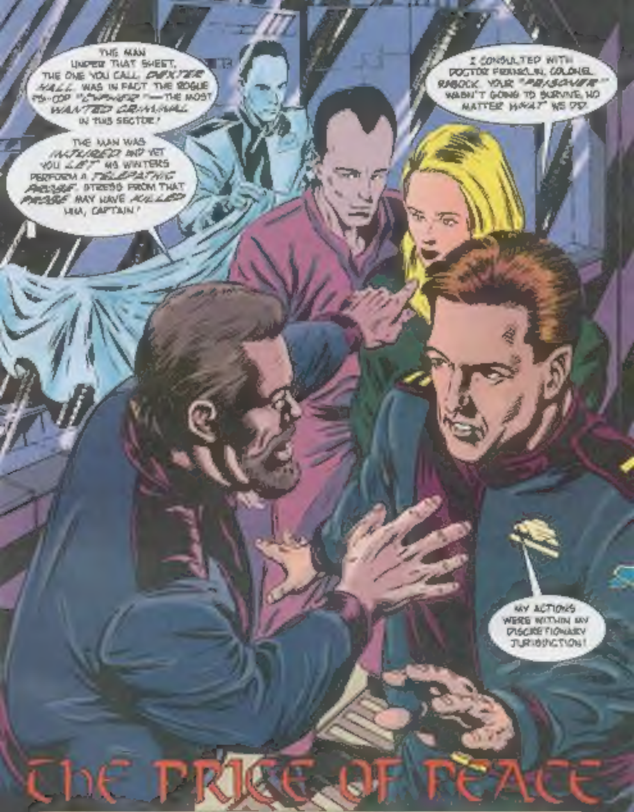
THE VERDICT:
EXECUTION OR WAR!

MORETTI
NETZER
LEIGH

DIRECT SALES


SHUTTLE VORTEX TO BABYLON 5.
WHERE —
THIS IS BABYLON CONTROL...
— ARE YOU...?!
...YOUR ARRIVAL IS UNSCHEDULED AT THIS TIME.
THERE YOU ARE...
PLEASE HOLD YOUR POSITION...
— THANK GOD!
BABYLON 5 — DOWNBELOW. THE QUARTERS OF JASON COLBY
THOUGHT I'D LOST YOU IN ALL THIS MESS, SHANNON.
I HAVE TO GET OFF BABYLON 5 FAST, BABY, BUT I COULDN'T LEAVE WITHOUT YOU!
I'M GOING BACK TO EARTH TO STRAIGHTEN OUT MY LIFE. TO TRY AND MAKE IT THE WAY WE WANTED IT...


LIEUTENANT COMMANDER IVANOVA.
...I JUST HOPE WEBSTER GETS ME OUT OF HERE SOON.
THIS IS COLONEL RABOCK.
HUH?
MY SHUTTLE HAS BEEN WAITING OUT HERE FOR FIFTEEN MINUTES!
I WAS ABOUT TO SIGNAL YOU, COLONEL. THANK YOU FOR WAITING PATIENTLY. PROCEED DIRECTLY TO BAY 14. OUT.
THANK YOU, LIEUTENANT COMMANDER. OUT.
SO WEBSTER IS NOW COLONEL RABOCK? BEAUTIFUL.
GOOD THING I KEPT THAT VIDEO-TAP IN PLACE.
TWELVE MINUTES LATER.
"YOU WILLFULLY VIOLATED A DIRECT ORDER FROM EARTH DOME, CAPTAIN SHERIDAN!"


THE MAN UNDER THAT SHEET, THE ONE YOU CALL DEXTER HALL, WAS IN FACT THE ROGUE PSI-COP "CHANDLER"—THE MOST WANTED CRIMINAL IN THIS SECTOR!
THE MAN WAS INJURED AND YET YOU LET MS WINTERS PERFORM A TELEPATHIC PROBE. STRESS FROM THAT PROBE MAY HAVE KILLED HIM, CAPTAIN!
I CONSULTED WITH DOCTOR FRANKLIN, COLONEL RABOCK. YOUR "PRISONER" WASN'T GOING TO SURVIVE, NO MATTER WHAT WE DID.
MY ACTIONS WERE WITHIN MY DISCRETIONARY JURISDICTION!

THE PRICE OF PEACE

MARK MORETTI writer
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based on the Warner Bros. television series BABYLON 5
created by J. Michael Straczynski

BABYLON 5 [illegible]

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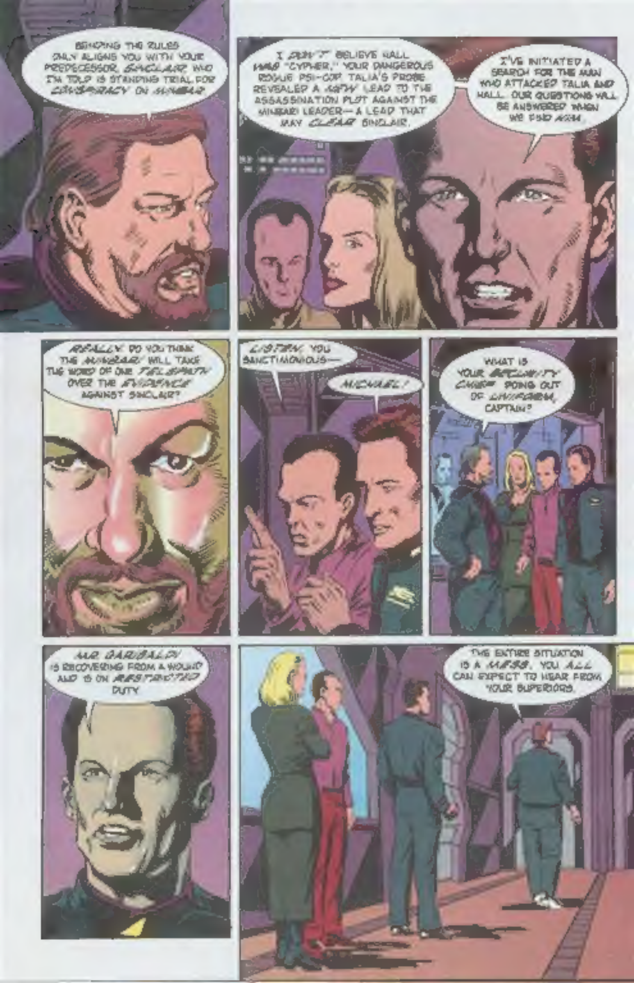
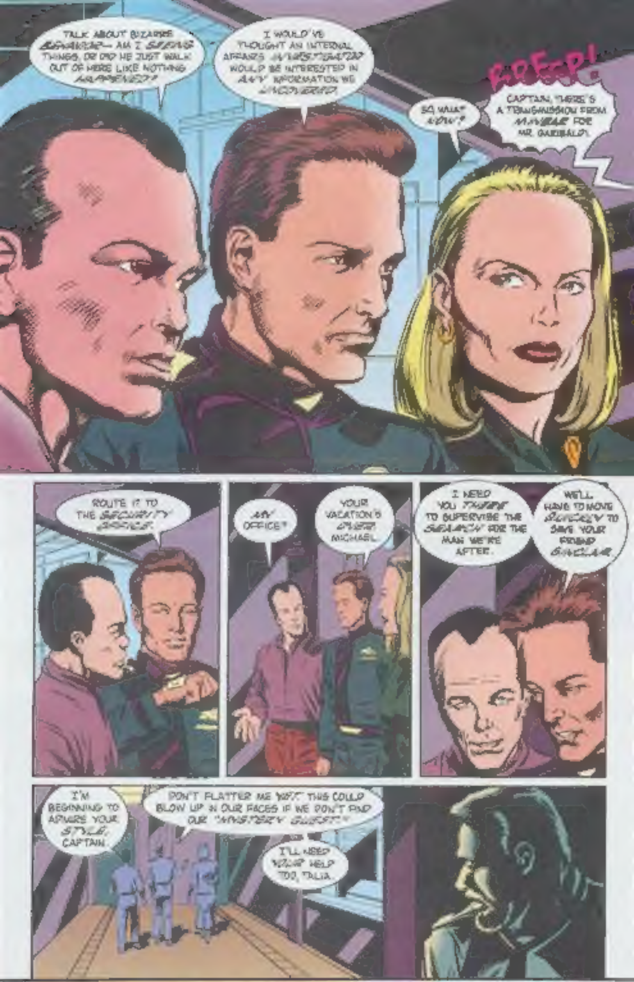
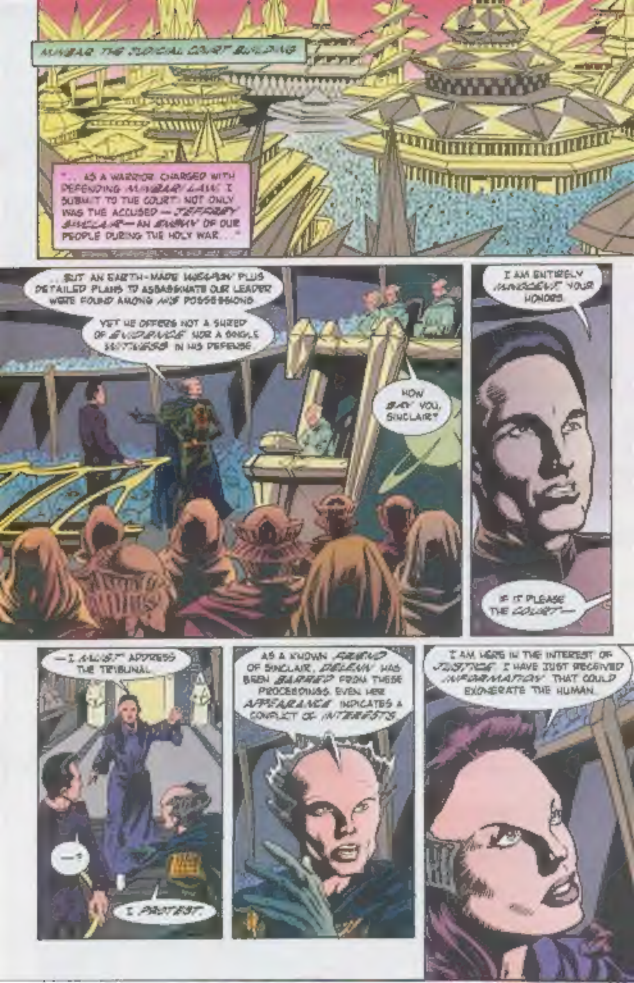
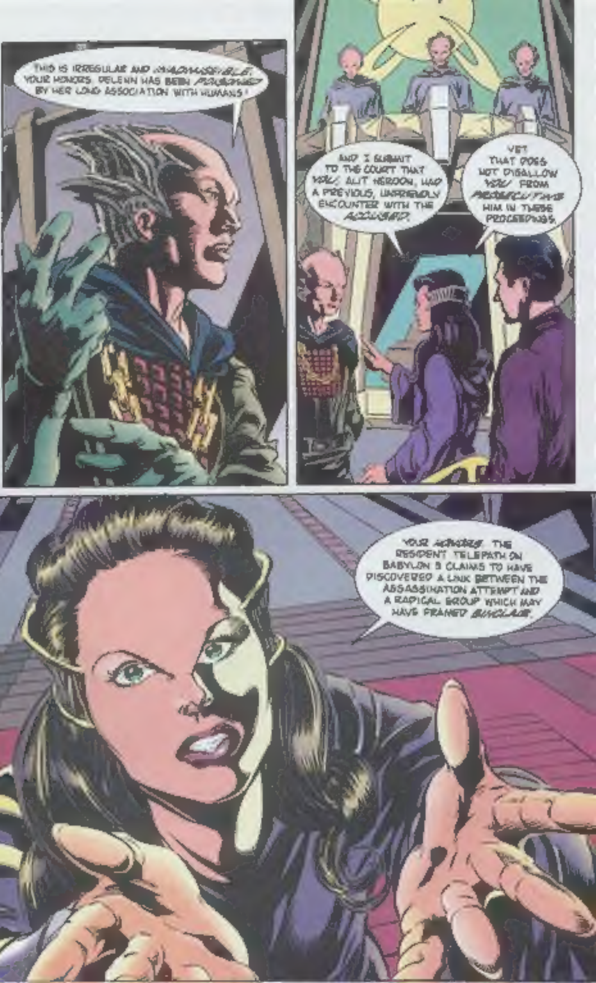
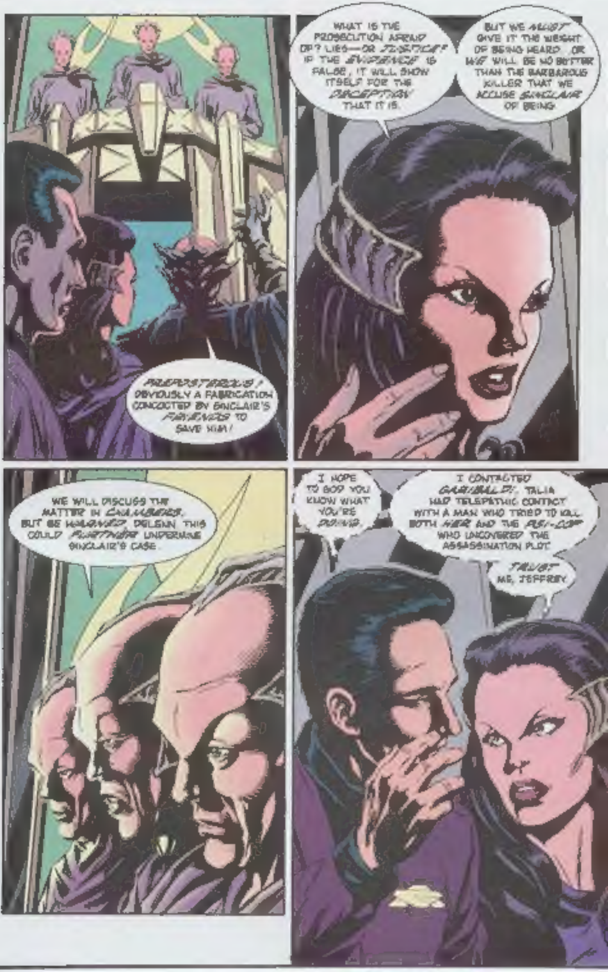
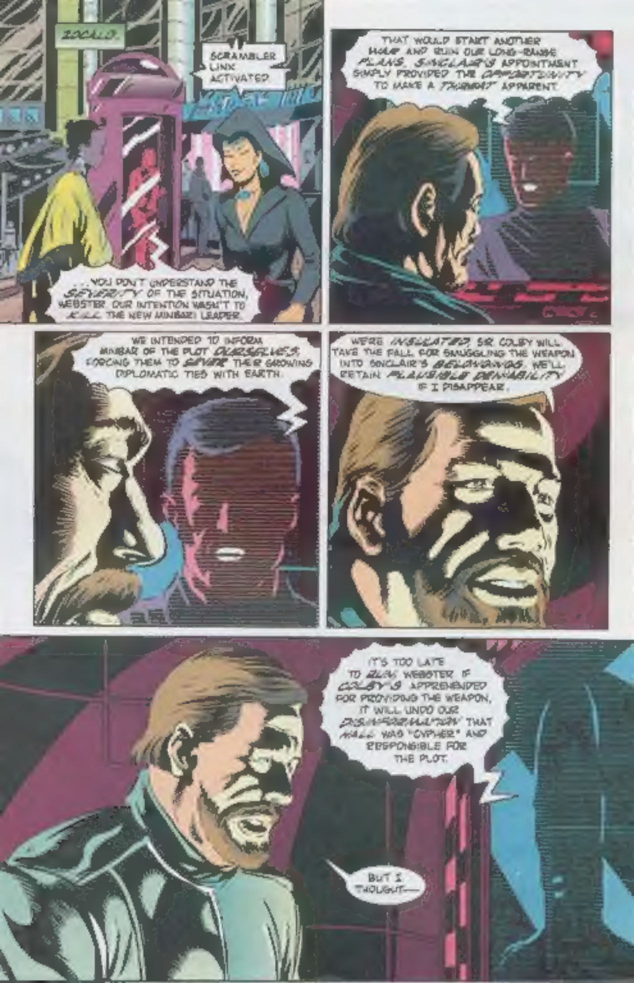

BENDING THE RULES ONLY ALIGNS YOU WITH YOUR PREDECESSOR, *SINCLAIR*, WHO I'M TOLD IS STANDING TRIAL FOR *CONSPIRACY* ON *MINBAR*.
I *DON'T* BELIEVE HALL *WAS* "CYPHER," YOUR DANGEROUS ROGUE PSI-COP. TALIA'S PROBE REVEALED A *NEW* LEAD TO THE ASSASSINATION PLOT AGAINST THE MINBARI LEADER— A LEAD THAT MAY *CLEAR* SINCLAIR.
I'VE INITIATED A SEARCH FOR THE MAN WHO ATTACKED TALIA AND HALL. OUR QUESTIONS WILL BE ANSWERED WHEN WE FIND *HIM*.
REALLY? DO YOU THINK THE *MINBARI* WILL TAKE THE WORD OF ONE *TELEPATH* OVER THE *EVIDENCE* AGAINST SINCLAIR?
LISTEN, YOU SANCTIMONIOUS—
MICHAEL!
WHAT IS YOUR *SECURITY CHIEF* DOING OUT OF *UNIFORM*, CAPTAIN?
MR. GARIBALDI IS RECOVERING FROM A WOUND AND IS ON *RESTRICTED* DUTY.
THE ENTIRE SITUATION IS A *MESS*. YOU *ALL* CAN EXPECT TO HEAR FROM YOUR SUPERIORS.

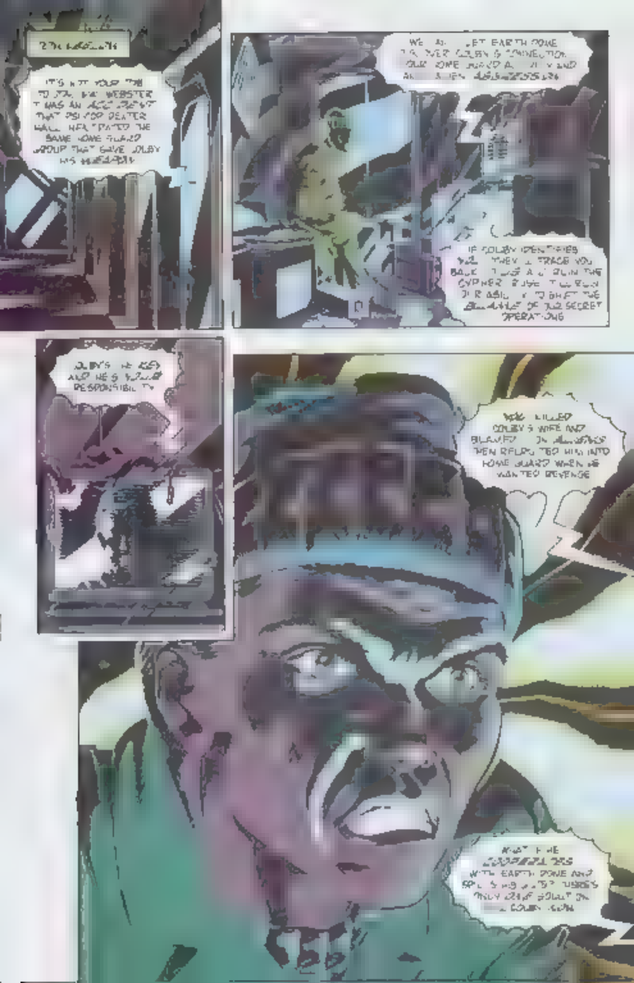

TALK ABOUT BIZARRE BEHAVIOR— AM I SEEING THINGS, OR DID HE JUST WALK OUT OF HERE LIKE NOTHING HAPPENED?!
I WOULD'VE THOUGHT AN INTERNAL AFFAIRS INVESTIGATOR WOULD BE INTERESTED IN ANY INFORMATION WE UNCOVERED!
SO, WHAT NOW?
BREEP!
CAPTAIN, THERE'S A TRANSMISSION FROM MARS FOR MR. GARIBALDI.
ROUTE IT TO THE SECURITY OFFICE.
MY OFFICE?
YOUR VACATION'S OVER, MICHAEL.
I NEED YOU THERE TO SUPERVISE THE SEARCH FOR THE MAN WE'RE AFTER.
WE'LL HAVE TO MOVE QUICKLY TO SAVE YOUR FRIEND SINCLAIR.
I'M BEGINNING TO ADMIRE YOUR STYLE, CAPTAIN.
DON'T FLATTER ME YET. THIS COULD BLOW UP IN OUR FACES IF WE DON'T FIND OUR "MYSTERY GUEST."
I'LL NEED YOUR HELP TOO, TALIA.

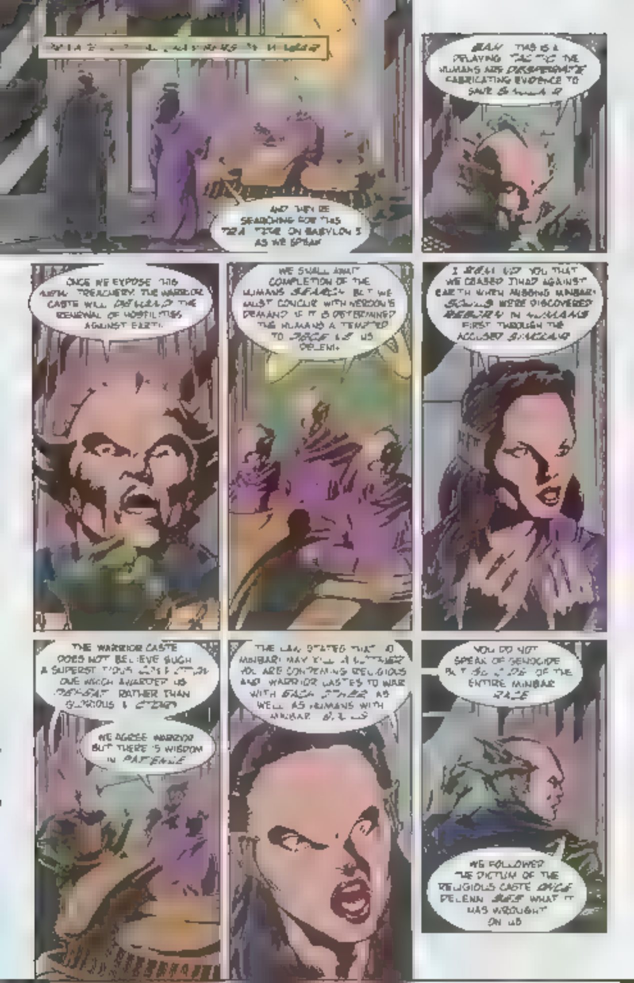

MINBAR: THE JUDICIAL COURT BUILDING
"... AS A WARRIOR CHARGED WITH DEFENDING *MINBARI LAW*, I SUBMIT TO THE COURT: NOT ONLY WAS THE ACCUSED — *JEFFREY SINCLAIR* — AN *ENEMY* OF OUR PEOPLE DURING THE HOLY WAR..."
...BUT AN EARTH-MADE *WEAPON* PLUS DETAILED PLANS TO ASSASSINATE OUR LEADER WERE FOUND AMONG *HIS* POSSESSIONS.
YET HE OFFERS NOT A SHRED OF *EVIDENCE* NOR A SINGLE *WITNESS* IN HIS DEFENSE.
HOW *SAY* YOU, SINCLAIR?
I AM ENTIRELY *INNOCENT*, YOUR HONORS.
IF IT PLEASE THE *COURT* —
— I *MUST* ADDRESS THE TRIBUNAL.
— ?
I *PROTEST*.
AS A KNOWN *FRIEND* OF SINCLAIR, *DELENN* HAS BEEN *BARRED* FROM THESE PROCEEDINGS. EVEN HER *APPEARANCE* INDICATES A CONFLICT OF *INTERESTS*.
I AM HERE IN THE INTEREST OF *JUSTICE*. I HAVE JUST RECEIVED *INFORMATION* THAT COULD EXONERATE THE HUMAN.

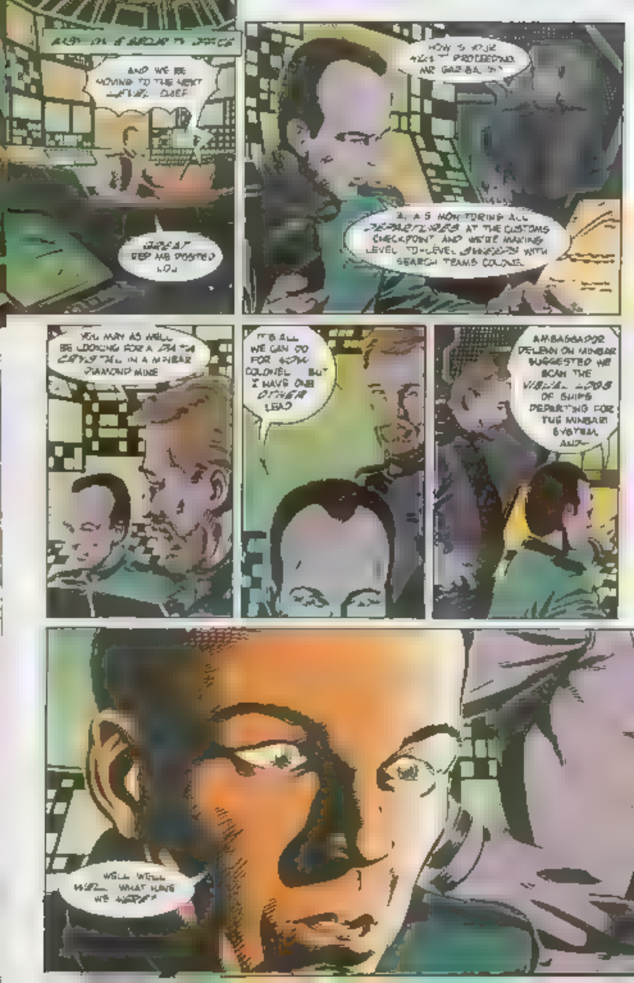

THIS IS IRREGULAR AND *INADMISSIBLE*, YOUR HONORS. DELENN HAS BEEN *POISONED* BY HER LONG ASSOCIATION WITH HUMANS!
AND I SUBMIT TO THE COURT THAT *YOU*, ALIT HERDON, HAD A PREVIOUS, UNFRIENDLY ENCOUNTER WITH THE *ACCUSED*.
YET THAT DOES NOT DISALLOW *YOU* FROM *PROSECUTING* HIM IN THESE PROCEEDINGS.
YOUR *HONORS*, THE RESIDENT TELEPATH ON BABYLON 5 CLAIMS TO HAVE DISCOVERED A LINK BETWEEN THE ASSASSINATION ATTEMPT AND A RADICAL GROUP WHICH MAY HAVE FRAMED *SINCLAIR*.

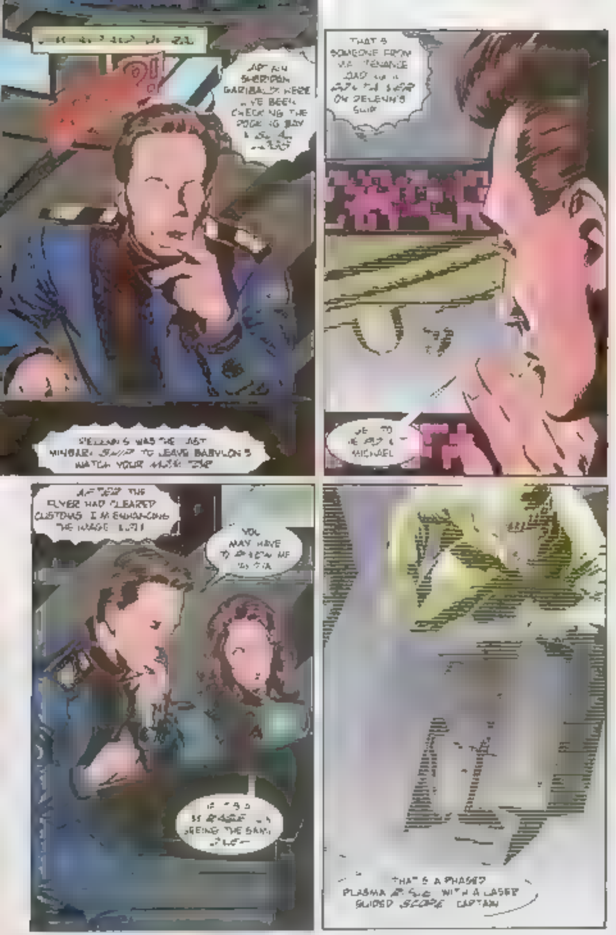

PREPOSTEROUS! OBVIOUSLY A FABRICATION CONCOCTED BY SINCLAIR'S FRIENDS TO SAVE HIM!
WHAT IS THE PROSECUTION AFRAID OF? LIES—OR JUSTICE? IF THE EVIDENCE IS FALSE, IT WILL SHOW ITSELF FOR THE DECEPTION THAT IT IS.
BUT WE MUST GIVE IT THE WEIGHT OF BEING HEARD. OR WE WILL BE NO BETTER THAN THE BARBAROUS KILLER THAT WE ACCUSE SINCLAIR OF BEING.
WE WILL DISCUSS THE MATTER IN CHAMBERS. BUT BE WARNED, DELENN. THIS COULD FURTHER UNDERMINE SINCLAIR'S CASE.
I HOPE TO GOD YOU KNOW WHAT YOU'RE DOING.
I CONTACTED GARIBALDI. TALIA HAD TELEPATHIC CONTACT WITH A MAN WHO TRIED TO KILL BOTH HER AND THE PSI-COP WHO UNCOVERED THE ASSASSINATION PLOT.
TRUST ME, JEFFREY.

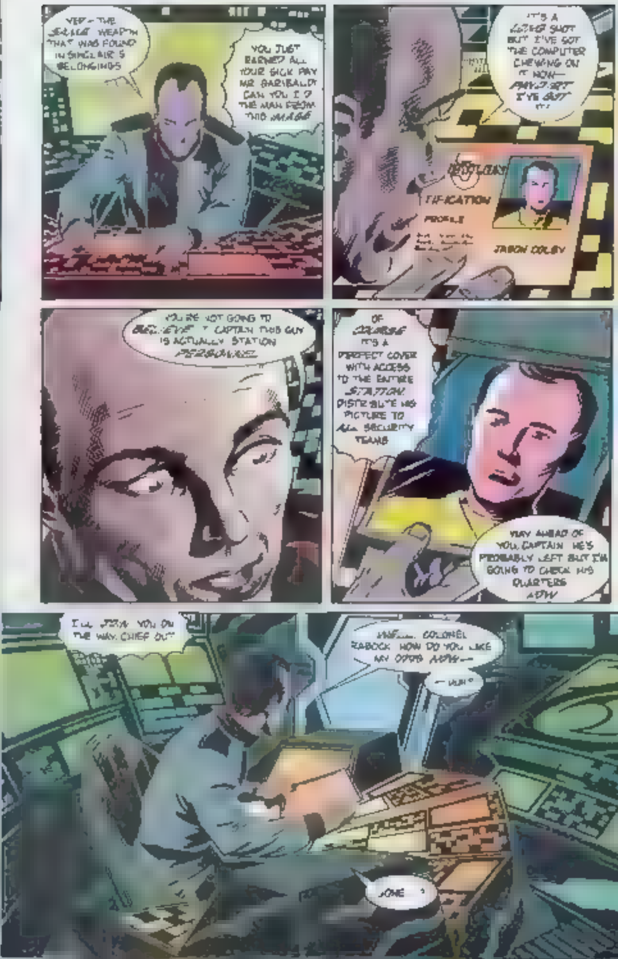

ZOCALO
SCRAMBLER LINK ACTIVATED.
...YOU DON'T UNDERSTAND THE SEVERITY OF THE SITUATION, WEBSTER. OUR INTENTION WASN'T TO KILL THE NEW MINBARI LEADER.
THAT WOULD START ANOTHER WAR AND RUIN OUR LONG-RANGE PLANS. SINCLAIR'S APPOINTMENT SIMPLY PROVIDED THE OPPORTUNITY TO MAKE A THREAT APPARENT.
WE INTENDED TO INFORM MINBAR OF THE PLOT OURSELVES, FORCING THEM TO SEVER THEIR GROWING DIPLOMATIC TIES WITH EARTH.
WE'RE INSULATED. SIR COLBY WILL TAKE THE FALL FOR SMUGGLING THE WEAPON INTO SINCLAIR'S BELONGINGS. WE'LL RETAIN PLAUSIBLE DENIABILITY IF I DISAPPEAR.
IT'S TOO LATE TO RUN, WEBSTER. IF COLBY'S APPREHENDED FOR PROVIDING THE WEAPON, IT WILL UNDO OUR DISINFORMATION THAT MALL WAS "CYPHER" AND RESPONSIBLE FOR THE PLOT.
BUT I THOUGHT—

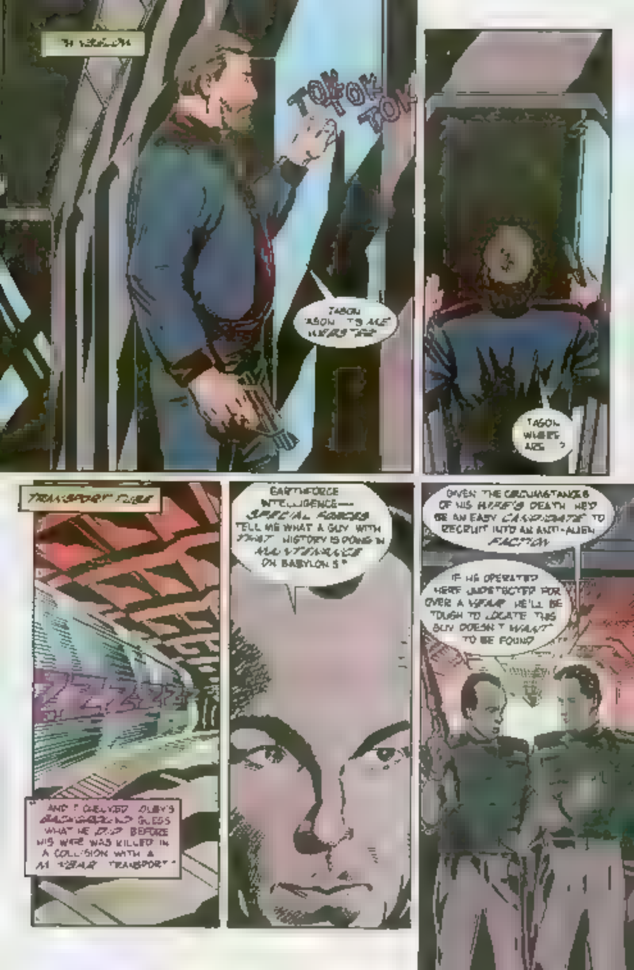

[illegible]
IT'S NOT YOUR [illegible] TO [illegible] WEBSTER. IT WAS AN ACCIDENT THAT PSI-COP DEXTER HALL INFILTRATED THE SAME HOME GUARD GROUP THAT GAVE COLBY HIS WEAPON
WE [illegible] LET EARTH ZONE [illegible] OVER COLBY'S CONNECTION. OUR ZONE GUARD [illegible] AND [illegible]
IF COLBY IDENTIFIES [illegible] THEY'LL TRACE YOU BACK [illegible] THE CYPHER [illegible] THE [illegible] OF OUR SECRET OPERATIONS
COLBY'S THE KEY AND HE'S YOUR RESPONSIBILITY
[illegible] KILLED COLBY'S WIFE AND BLAMED [illegible] THEN RECRUITED HIM INTO HOME GUARD WHEN HE WANTED REVENGE
WHAT IF THE [illegible] WITH EARTH ZONE AND [illegible] USES ONLY [illegible] COLBY [illegible]

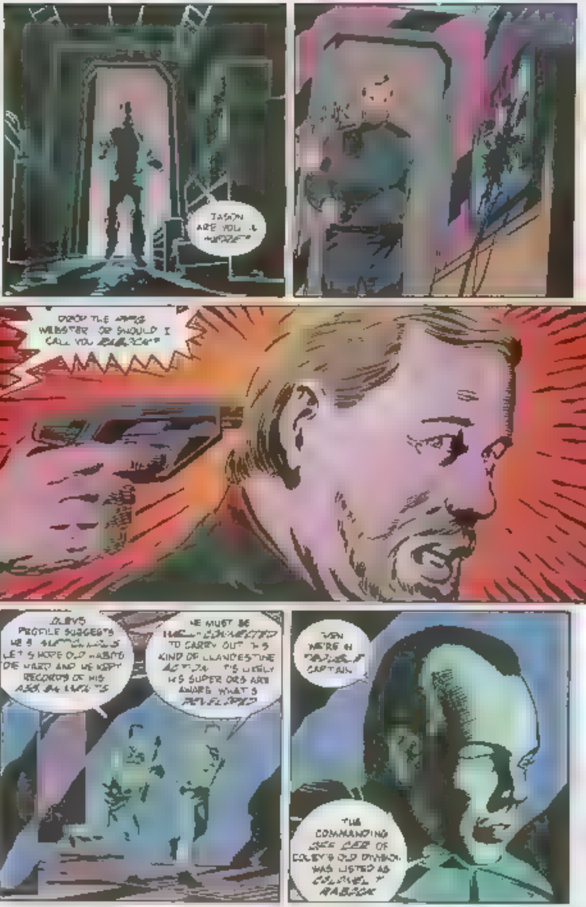

AND THEY'RE SEARCHING FOR THIS TRAITOR ON BABYLON 5 AS WE SPEAK
NAY. THIS IS A DELAYING TACTIC. THE HUMANS ARE DESPERATE, FABRICATING EVIDENCE TO SAVE SINCLAIR!
ONCE WE EXPOSE THIS HUMAN TREACHERY, THE WARRIOR CASTE WILL DEMAND THE RENEWAL OF HOSTILITIES AGAINST EARTH.
WE SHALL AWAIT COMPLETION OF THE HUMANS' SEARCH, BUT WE MUST CONCUR WITH NEROON'S DEMAND IF IT IS DETERMINED THE HUMANS ATTEMPTED TO DECEIVE US, DELENN.
I REMIND YOU THAT WE CEASED JIHAD AGAINST EARTH WHEN MISSING MINBARI SOULS WERE DISCOVERED REBORN IN HUMANS, FIRST THROUGH THE ACCUSED SINCLAIR.
THE WARRIOR CASTE DOES NOT BELIEVE SUCH A SUPERSTITIOUS JUSTIFICATION, ONE WHICH AWARDED US DEFEAT RATHER THAN GLORIOUS VICTORY.
WE AGREE, WARRIOR, BUT THERE IS WISDOM IN PATIENCE.
THE LAW STATES THAT NO MINBARI MAY KILL ANOTHER. YOU ARE CONDEMNING RELIGIOUS AND WARRIOR CASTES TO WAR WITH EACH OTHER AS WELL AS HUMANS WITH MINBARI.
YOU DO NOT SPEAK OF GENOCIDE, BUT SUICIDE OF THE ENTIRE MINBARI RACE.
WE FOLLOWED THE DICTUM OF THE RELIGIOUS CASTE ONCE, DELENN. SEE WHAT IT HAS WROUGHT ON US.


AND WE'RE MOVING TO THE NEXT LEVEL, CHIEF.
GREAT! KEEP ME POSTED, LOU.
HOW IS YOUR HUNT PROCEEDING, MR. GARIBALDI?
B5 IS MONITORING ALL DEPARTURES AT THE CUSTOMS CHECKPOINT AND WE'RE MAKING LEVEL-TO-LEVEL SWEEPS WITH SEARCH TEAMS, COLONEL.
YOU MAY AS WELL BE LOOKING FOR A DATA CRYSTAL IN A MINBARI DIAMOND MINE.
IT'S ALL WE CAN DO FOR NOW, COLONEL. BUT I HAVE ONE OTHER LEAD.
AMBASSADOR DELENN ON MINBAR SUGGESTED WE SCAN THE VISUAL LOGS OF SHIPS DEPARTING FOR THE MINBARI SYSTEM, AND--
WELL, WELL, WELL. WHAT HAVE WE HERE?

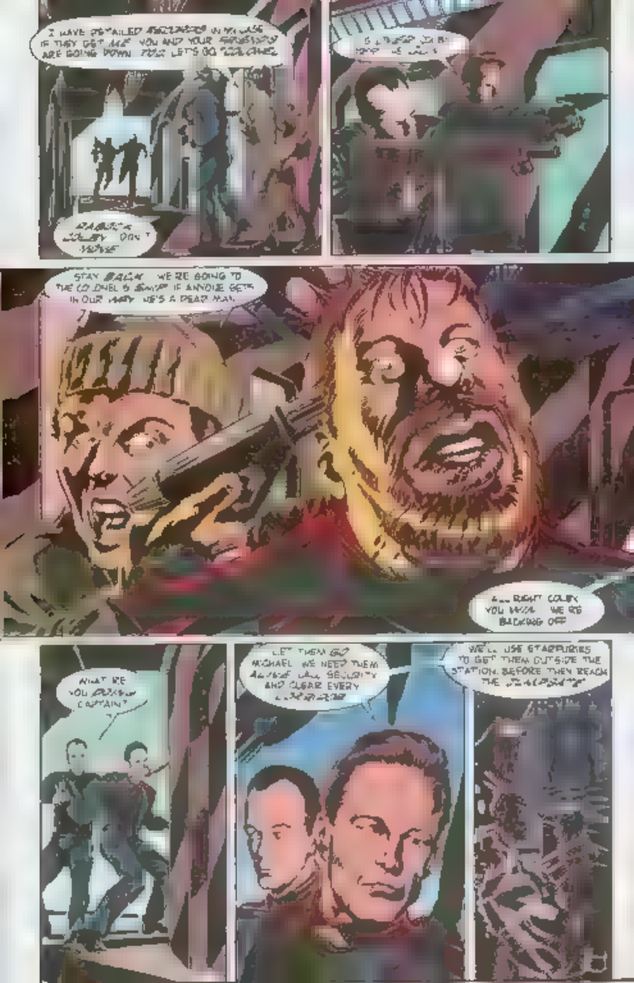

SHERIDAN GARIBALDI WERE … WE'VE BEEN CHECKING THE DOCKING BAY …
SIELENN'S WAS THE LAST MINBARI SHIP TO LEAVE BABYLON 5 WATCH YOUR …
THAT'S SOMEONE FROM MAINTENANCE … ON SIELENN'S SHIP
… MICHAEL
AFTER THE FLYER HAD CLEARED CUSTOMS I'M ENHANCING THE IMAGE …
YOU MAY HAVE TO … ME …
… SEEING THE SAME …
THAT'S A PHASED PLASMA RIFLE WITH A LASER GUIDED SCOPE CAPTAIN

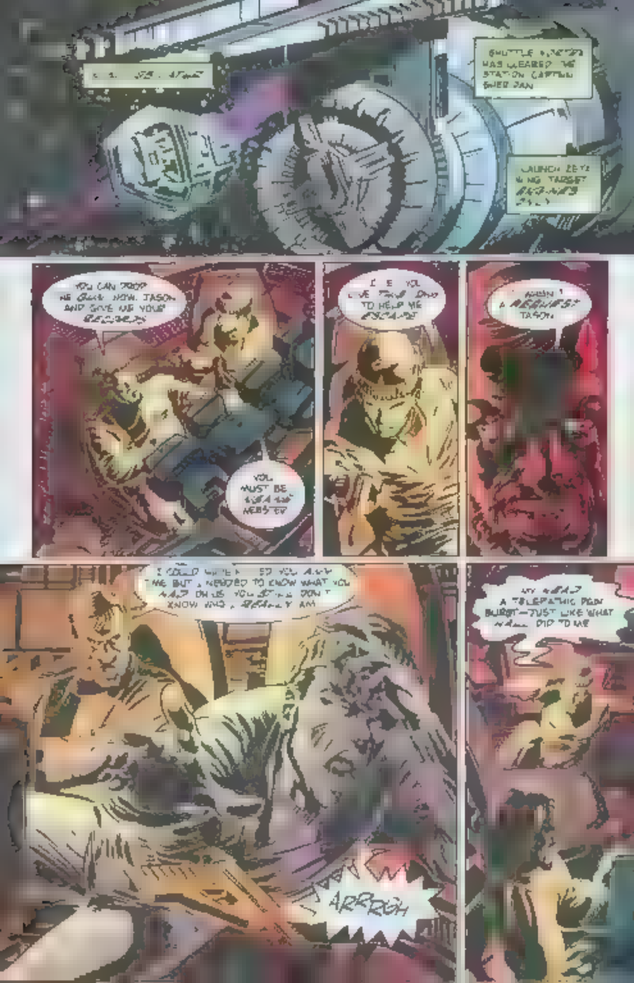

YEP — THE SAME WEAPON THAT WAS FOUND IN SINCLAIR'S BELONGINGS
YOU JUST EARNED ALL YOUR SICK PAY MR GARIBALDI. CAN YOU I.D. THE MAN FROM THIS IMAGE
IT'S A LONG SHOT BUT I'VE GOT THE COMPUTER CHEWING ON IT NOW— PAYDIRT I'VE GOT IT!
TIFICATION
PROFILE
JASON COLBY
YOU'RE NOT GOING TO BELIEVE IT CAPTAIN THIS GUY IS ACTUALLY STATION PERSONNEL
OF COURSE IT'S A PERFECT COVER WITH ACCESS TO THE ENTIRE STATION. DISTRIBUTE HIS PICTURE TO ALL SECURITY TEAMS
WAY AHEAD OF YOU, CAPTAIN. HE'S PROBABLY LEFT BUT I'M GOING TO CHECK HIS QUARTERS NOW
I'LL JOIN YOU ON THE WAY. CHIEF OUT
WELL... COLONEL ZABOCK. HOW DO YOU LIKE MY ODDS NOW—
— HUH?
GONE?


TOK TOK TOK
JASON. JASON, IT'S ME. WEBSTER.
JASON. WHERE ARE...?
TRANSPORT TUBE
"AND I CHECKED OLBY'S BACKGROUND. GUESS WHAT HE DID BEFORE HIS WIFE WAS KILLED IN A COLLISION WITH A MINBARI TRANSPORT."
EARTHFORCE INTELLIGENCE— SPECIAL FORCES. TELL ME WHAT A GUY WITH THAT HISTORY IS DOING IN MAINTENANCE ON BABYLON 5?
GIVEN THE CIRCUMSTANCES OF HIS WIFE'S DEATH, HE'D BE AN EASY CANDIDATE TO RECRUIT INTO AN ANTI-ALIEN FACTION.
IF HE OPERATED HERE UNDETECTED FOR OVER A YEAR, HE'LL BE TOUGH TO LOCATE. THIS GUY DOESN'T WANT TO BE FOUND.

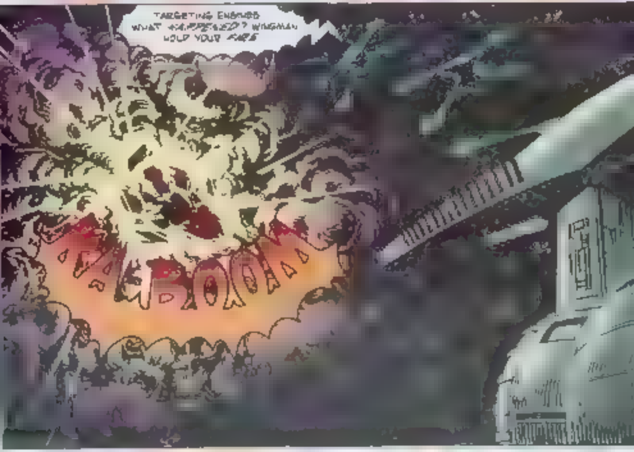

JASON ARE YOU IN HERE?
DROP THE [illegible] WEBSTER OR SHOULD I CALL YOU RABACK?
COLEY'S PROFILE SUGGESTS HE'S [illegible] LET'S HOPE OLD HABITS DIE HARD AND HE KEPT RECORDS OF HIS ASSIGNMENTS
HE MUST BE WELL CONNECTED TO CARRY OUT THIS KIND OF CLANDESTINE ACTION. IT'S LIKELY HIS SUPERIORS ARE AWARE WHAT'S DEVELOPED
THEN WE'RE IN TROUBLE CAPTAIN
THE COMMANDING OFFICER OF COLEY'S OLD DIVISION WAS LISTED AS COLONEL T RABACK

I'M GLAD YOU'RE ALL RIGHT JASON GARIBALDI DISCOVERED IT WAS YOU WHO PLANTED THE WEAPON INSIDE SINCLAIR'S CARGO
NOW WE'LL HAVE TO FIGURE OUT HOW TO GET YOU OUT OF
LIAR! YOU KILLED MY WIFE
THOK
UNNH
DO YOU THINK I'M AN IDIOT? I'VE BEEN MONITORING YOUR COMMUNICATIONS WEBSTER JUST LIKE YOU TAUGHT ME
YOUR SUPERIORS ORDERED YOU TO KILL ME
JASON YOU NEED ME TO GET OFF THIS STATION
WRONG AS AN EARTHFORCE OFFICER YOU'LL GET ME TO A SHIP OR I'LL SPILL EVERYTHING I KNOW ALONG WITH YOUR BRAINS

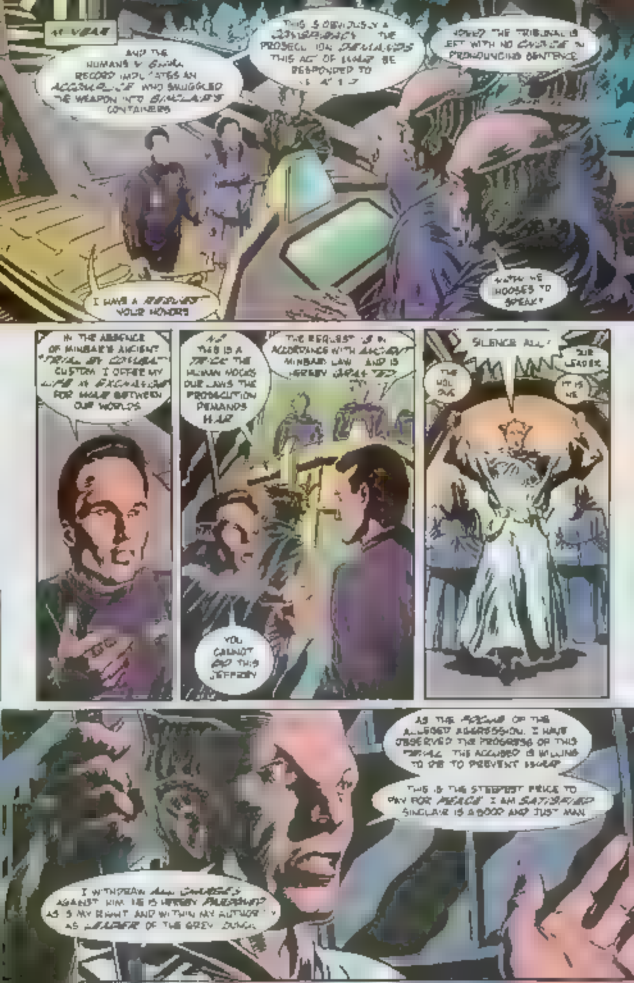

I HAVE DETAILED RECORDS IN MY CASE IF THEY GET ME YOU AND YOUR [illegible] ARE GOING DOWN [illegible] LET'S GO COLONEL
[illegible]
PATRICK COLBY DON'T MOVE
STAY BACK WE'RE GOING TO THE COLONEL'S SHIP IF ANYONE GETS IN OUR WAY HE'S A DEAD MAN
ALL RIGHT COLBY YOU WIN WE'RE BACKING OFF
WHAT ARE YOU DOING CAPTAIN?
LET THEM GO MICHAEL WE NEED THEM ALIVE CALL SECURITY AND CLEAR EVERY CORRIDOR
WE'LL USE STARFURIES TO GET THEM OUTSIDE THE STATION, BEFORE THEN REACH THE JUMPGATE

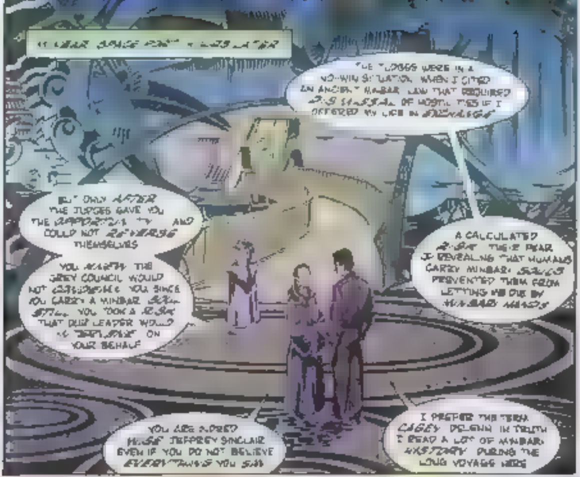

SHUTTLE HAS CLEARED THE STATION, CAPTAIN SHERIDAN
LAUNCH ZETA WING. TARGET
YOU CAN DROP THE GUN NOW, JASON, AND GIVE ME YOUR RECORDS.
YOU MUST BE
TO HELP ME ESCAPE
WASN'T A REQUEST, JASON.
I COULD HAVE KILLED YOU ANY TIME BUT I NEEDED TO KNOW WHAT YOU HAD ON US. YOU STILL DON'T KNOW WHO I REALLY AM.
MY HEAD! A TELEPATHIC PAIN BURST—JUST LIKE WHAT DID TO ME
ARRRGH

OH GOD
[illegible]
YOU ARE
CYPHER
NO YOU FOOL
STOP OR YOU'LL

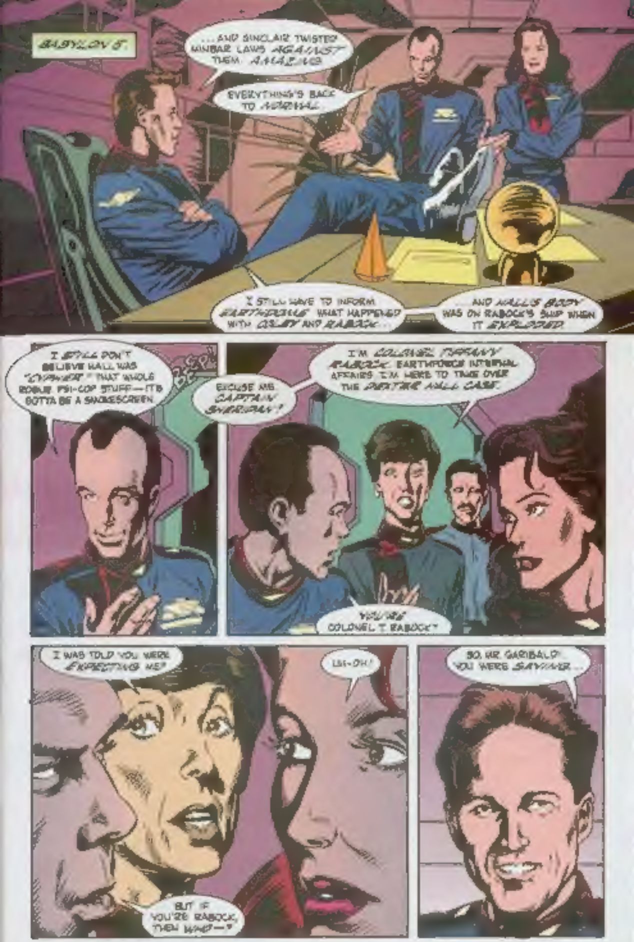

TARGETING ENGAGED
WHAT HAPPENED? WINGMAN
HOLD YOUR FIRE
KABOOOM

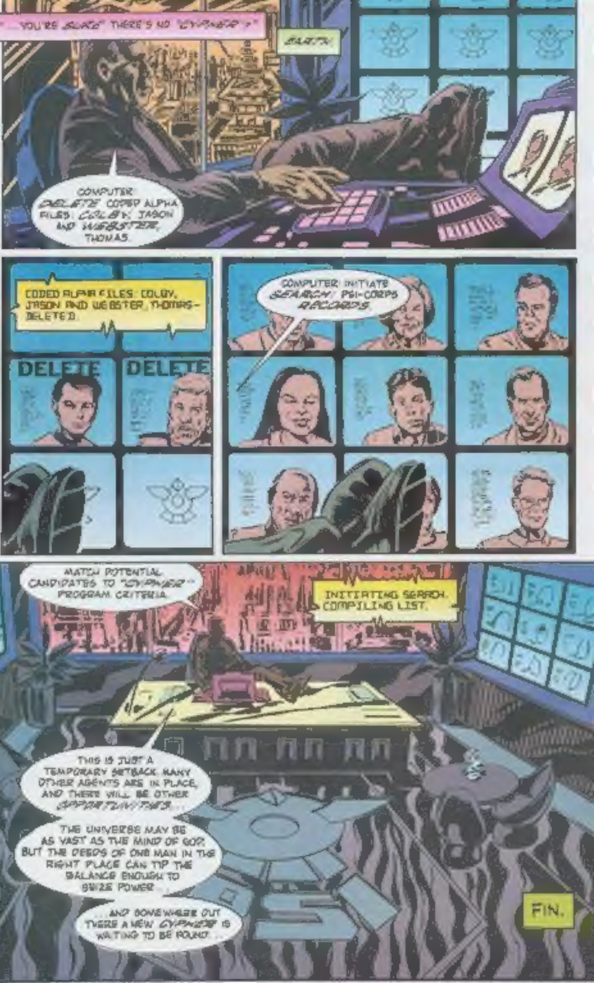
BABYLON
CONTROL THIS
IS KEFFER WE
[illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible] SIGNAL ZETA
AND RETURN TO BASE
[illegible] IT
BLEW UP
OH [illegible]
[illegible]


AT YEAR
AND THE HUMANS' V GNAL RECORD IMPLICATES AN ACCOMPLICE WHO SMUGGLED THE WEAPON INTO SINCLAIR'S CONTAINERS
THIS IS OBVIOUSLY A CONSPIRACY. THE PROSECUTION DEMANDS THIS ACT OF WAR BE RESPONDED TO IN KIND.
INDEED THE TRIBUNAL IS LEFT WITH NO CHOICE IN PRONOUNCING SENTENCE
UNLESS HE CHOOSES TO SPEAK
I HAVE A REQUEST, YOUR HONORS
IN THE ABSENCE OF MINBARI'S ANCIENT "TRIAL BY COMBAT" CUSTOM I OFFER MY LIFE IN EXCHANGE FOR WAR BETWEEN OUR WORLDS
NO! THIS IS A TRICK. THE HUMAN MOCKS OUR LAWS. THE PROSECUTION DEMANDS WAR
THE REQUEST IS IN ACCORDANCE WITH ANCIENT MINBARI LAW AND IS HEREBY GRANTED
YOU CANNOT DO THIS JEFFREY
SILENCE ALL!
THE HOLY ONE
OUR LEADER
IT IS HE
AS THE FOCUS OF THE ALLEGED AGGRESSION, I HAVE OBSERVED THE PROGRESS OF THIS TRIAL. THE ACCUSED IS WILLING TO DIE TO PREVENT WAR
THIS IS THE STEEPEST PRICE TO PAY FOR PEACE. I AM SATISFIED SINCLAIR IS A GOOD AND JUST MAN.
I WITHDRAW ALL CHARGES AGAINST HIM. HE IS HEREBY PARDONED AS IS MY RIGHT AND WITHIN MY AUTHORITY AS LEADER OF THE GREY COUNCIL


AT MINBAR SPACE PORT — DAYS LATER
THE JUDGES WERE IN A NO-WIN SITUATION WHEN I CITED AN ANCIENT MINBARI LAW THAT REQUIRED DISMISSAL OF HOSTILITIES IF I OFFERED MY LIFE IN EXCHANGE
BUT ONLY AFTER THE JUDGES GAVE YOU THE OPPORTUNITY AND COULD NOT REVERSE THEMSELVES
YOU KNEW THE GREY COUNCIL WOULD NOT SACRIFICE YOU SINCE YOU CARRY A MINBARI SOUL. STILL, YOU TOOK A RISK THAT OUR LEADER WOULD INTERVENE ON YOUR BEHALF
A CALCULATED RISK. THEIR FEAR OF REVEALING THAT HUMANS CARRY MINBARI SOULS PREVENTED THEM FROM LETTING ME DIE BY MINBARI HANDS
YOU ARE INDEED WISE, JEFFREY SINCLAIR, EVEN IF YOU DO NOT BELIEVE EVERYTHING YOU SAY
I PREFER THE TERM CAGEY, DELENN. IN TRUTH I READ A LOT OF MINBARI HISTORY DURING THE LONG VOYAGE HERE

AMBASSADOR, IT IS TIME
I'M GOING TO MISS YOU, DELENN. GOODBYE
WE WILL MEET AGAIN, JEFFREY. I—OH


BABYLON 5.
...AND SINCLAIR TWISTED MINBARI LAWS AGAINST THEM. AMAZING!
EVERYTHING'S BACK TO NORMAL.
I STILL HAVE TO INFORM EARTHDOME WHAT HAPPENED WITH COLBY AND RABOCK...
...AND HALL'S BODY WAS ON RABOCK'S SHIP WHEN IT EXPLODED.
I STILL DON'T BELIEVE HALL WAS "CYPHER." THAT WHOLE ROGUE PSI-COP STUFF—IT'S GOTTA BE A SMOKESCREEN.
EXCUSE ME. CAPTAIN SHERIDAN?
I'M COLONEL TIFFANY RABOCK. EARTHFORCE INTERNAL AFFAIRS. I'M HERE TO TAKE OVER THE DEXTER HALL CASE.
YOU'RE COLONEL T. RABOCK?
I WAS TOLD YOU WERE EXPECTING ME?
UH-OH!
BUT IF YOU'RE RABOCK, THEN WHO—?
SO, MR. GARIBALDI. YOU WERE SAYING...


"...YOU'RE SURE? THERE'S NO "CYPHER"?"
EARTH
COMPUTER: DELETE CODED ALPHA FILES: COLBY, JASON AND WEBSTER, THOMAS.
CODED ALPHA FILES: COLBY, JASON AND WEBSTER, THOMAS—DELETED.
DELETE
DELETE
COMPUTER: INITIATE SEARCH: PSI-CORPS RECORDS.
MATCH POTENTIAL CANDIDATES TO "CYPHER" PROGRAM CRITERIA.
INITIATING SEARCH. COMPILING LIST.
THIS IS JUST A TEMPORARY SETBACK. MANY OTHER AGENTS ARE IN PLACE, AND THERE WILL BE OTHER OPPORTUNITIES...
THE UNIVERSE MAY BE AS VAST AS THE MIND OF GOD, BUT THE DEEDS OF ONE MAN IN THE RIGHT PLACE CAN TIP THE BALANCE ENOUGH TO SEIZE POWER...
...AND SOMEWHERE OUT THERE A NEW CYPHER IS WAITING TO BE FOUND...
FIN.

BABCOM

"It was the dawn of the third age of mankind... ten years after the Earth-Minbari war. The Babylon Project was a dream given form. Its goal: to prevent another war, by creating a place where humans and aliens could work out their differences peacefully. It's a port of call, home away from home, for diplomats, hustlers, entrepreneurs, and wanderers. Humans and aliens, wrapped in two million, five hundred thousand tons of spinning metal... all alone in the night. It can be a dangerous place, but it's our last, best hope for peace. This is the story of the last of the Babylon stations. The year is 2259. The name of the place is... **BABYLON 5**."

COSTUMES FOR A FOREIGN WORLD

BY ANN BRUICE

There are many different races of aliens and people on Babylon 5. As you might guess, designing and creating clothes for all these characters keeps the Wardrobe Department continually challenged.

As Costume Designer for Babylon 5, I have been, since the first season, informed and enlightened by series creator J. Michael Straczynski, Production Designer John Iacovelli and Producer John Copeland — though they have given me tremendous freedom to develop my own ideas, as well.

One of J. Michael's clearest desires was to create widely, and sometimes wildly, divergent and detailed characters for B-5. My job: to prepare divergent and detailed costumes for all of them.

HUMANS

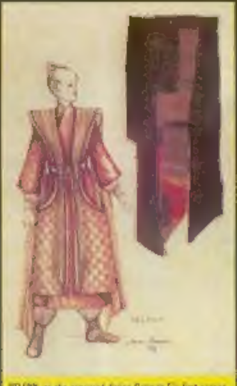
Humans on B-5 needed both "uniformed" and "civilian" appearances. Within the uniformed world, there were EarthForce Uniforms — command and non-command, Class A and Formal Dress, plus other personnel outfits, like spacesuits, ground crew jumpsuits, security uniforms, Med Lab attire, and surgical scrubs, to name a few. Each outfit was designed with the idea that it belonged to a specific class of worker with a specific function, on a thriving, working space station.

But the designs had to satisfy the aesthetic of the year 2259, too. So, we used unusual fabric combinations and texture detail, plus a complex system of medals and patches to distinguish rank, to create job-specific uniforms. The designs were influenced by world military uniforms from the past 150 years. Both J. Michael and John Copeland believed viewers would relate best to Earth history, that is, costumes that tie together our past, present, and future.

Civilian outfits needed to represent a melting pot, so we blended contemporary silhouettes with timeless ethnic fabrics and shapes. This colorful mix gives the world of B-5 a rich and varied texture — especially appropriate since J. Michael has sometimes compared Babylon 5 to Ellis Island.

PSI CORPS

Talia Winters's Psi Corps tailored suits retain a quasi-uniform look, with contrasting necklines behind strong black asymmetrical shapes. As a member of Psi Corps, Talia wears a special Psi Corps pin, plus black leather gloves in public, to keep her telepathic powers in check.



DELENN as she appeared during Babylon 5's first season. On the right are swatches of the fabric used to create her outfit.

ALIENS, ALIENS

Our greatest challenge was to create costumes for the vast cast of alien characters. Most of our energy was devoted to our three alien ambassadors, who represent the aligned alien races. Eccentric in their own ways, each comes to B-5 with a unique culture and a particular agenda.

Londo Mollari is the Centauri Ambassador. According to J. Michael, the Centauri Republic was once a formidable, imperialistic power. But the people have been weakened by luxury and leisure — they now define themselves through acquisition and outward appearance. Given this guideline, I derived Londo's costume silhouette from late 18th-century pre-Napoleonic attire. His costume is a tribute to excess, replete with gold

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DC COMICS [illegible]

NEXT UP: **SHADOWS PAST AND PRESENT**

A new story begins in which Garibaldi [illegible] Jeffrey Sinclair — and encounters some new problems. Written by Tim DeHaas, based on a premise by J. Michael Straczynski, with art by John Ridgway.

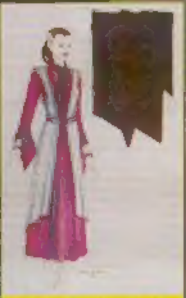
BEHIND THE SCENES

CONTINUED FROM PREVIOUS PAGE

bullion and brass scrolls as trim on his purple coat. As we move into later episodes of the second season, Londo's look will become darker, more threatening: his coat will change from purple to midnight blue, with pewter trim replacing the gold. Peter Jurasik, the actor who plays Londo, has encouraged me to add the extras, feeling the more his outfit is cluttered with ornamentation, the greater the facade his character must fight against.

In contrast to the Centauri Republic, the Narns have evolved into an aggressive society, pushed to defend what was once a peaceful agrarian culture. Having been oppressed by the Centauri Republic for centuries, the Narns will fight to the death before succumbing again. Hence, we designed the costume for G'Kar, the Narn Ambassador, based on warriors from antiquity. Pieces of his costume range from Roman to Gothic, and though his silhouette is largely classic, the materials of his costume have an organic quality, unlike Londo's highly refined, faceted look. With a complex layering system, including studded shirt, breeches, codpiece, and boots, everything about G'Kar's costume evokes power.

The Minbari Ambassador, Delenn, holds a highly-respected position. A quiet, contemplative species, the Minbari aspire to personal honor and integrity; visually, they need to evoke a strong, centered image. Delenn's makeup became more feminine for the start of season one (versus the series pilot), so her clothes were changed to more feminine dimensions. The Minbari silhouette is a mix of Asian and Western Gothic, and the layered fabrics of Delenn's costumes are silk brocades with small geometric patterns. For season two, her character made a major transformation, becoming more human, and we altered her attire accordingly, to stress a slender, more elegant silhouette. To do this, I removed one layer of garments and streamlined her kimono. We also gave her a heeled shoe, to complete the long, lean look.



DELENN in her second season clothing with swatches of the fabric used in the costume.

Each ambassador has an attaché (Vir, Na'Toth, Lennier), to assist him or her. As such, Lennier, who serves Delenn, was also transformed for the second season. At the start of season one, Lennier (Bill Mumy) had just arrived from Minbar where he led a sheltered monastic life. So, his costume reflected a youthful, servile quality. But for season two, Lennier needed to look more sophisticated, less gullible. Taking his existing silhouette, I designed a more complex costume, utilizing intricate line detail and fabric piecing. The result is a more confident, mature Lennier.

This is just the start of basic B-5 costuming. For example, each ambassador also needs ceremonial attire for special state occasions. I've designed outfits for Narn pilots, Narn civilians, Minbari warriors, Minbari acolytes, Minbari pilots, the Minbari Grey Council, Centauri women, Londo's wives, the Centauri Emperor, Centauri Imperial Guards, Centauri clairvoyants... and many others.

From there, the world of B-5 goes on to encompass many non-aligned alien races (most notably the Drazi), plus all the varied characters (both human and alien) who pass through B-5 for an episode or two. It is not uncommon for the Wardrobe Department to dress up to 100 actors, stunt players, and extras in the course of a day. Behind the scenes at B-5 is a bustling world as exciting as the one we endeavor to create.

JOURNEY TO BABYLON 5

BY ANN BRUICE

Becoming Costume Designer for Babylon 5 was a step I never anticipated. Luckily my training and experience over the past decade have served me well.

I came to the [illegible] world of design after getting an M.A. in Drama from the University of California Santa Barbara and an M.F.A. in Costume Design from California Institute of the Arts. From there, I landed work assisting a number of notable designers, including Robert Blackman (Star Trek: The Next Generation, Deep Space Nine), who helped me refine my sense of historical silhouette as well as understand the importance of detail, color, and texture.

From 1986 to 1993, I worked largely in theatre around the Los Angeles area, designing costumes for both period and contemporary plays. Twice, I won the Los Angeles Drama Critics Circle Award for my work.

For a number of these theatre projects, I collaborated with a Scenic Designer named John Iacovelli. John was already working with the producers of Babylon 5, and he convinced them to interview me. Less than a week later, I found myself on board as Costume Designer. Barely two months after that, we were shooting the first episode. During that time, I put together a wardrobe staff, researched and rendered designs, chose all the fabrics for the costumes, and oversaw fittings and tailoring.

Fortunately, my work in theatre, plus a handful of film and television credits, helped prepare me for the depth and [illegible] to create the costumes for the world of B-5. Even now, well into our second season, I remain grateful for all those years of formal training and experience — it's the only way I was able to survive Babylon 5!

ANN BRUICE is Costume Designer for the television show Babylon 5.

COVER ART FOR THIS ISSUE BY JERRY BINGHAM.